



BAILAR, JOHN C. III (National Cancer Institute), and RICE, SUSAN LEVY: Survival of uterine cancer patients in different-sized hospitals. Connecticut, 1935–51. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, November 1961, pp. 987–994.

From 1935 through 1951, 6,220 patients with malignant tumors of the uterine cervix or corpus were reported to the Connecticut Tumor Registry. Comparison of the characteristics of patients admitted to hospitals of small, intermediate, or large size shows only minor differences in the age of the patients or in the stage of cancer at the time of diagnosis.

In all hospital-size groups, most cervical tumors were treated with radiation alone, while most corpus tumors were treated with surgery, either alone or in combination with radiation.

Survival of corpus cancer patients did not seem to be related to the size of the hospital in which the patients were treated. There was no association between hospital size and survival rates for cervical cancer patients with localized tumors or for those with remote extensions or metastases. For cervical cancer patients with regional extensions, however, survival rates in the large hospitals were considerably higher than those in the small or intermediate hospitals.

AXNICK, NORMAN W. (Public Health Service), and BROWN, WILLIAM J.: Primary and secondary syphilis in the United States. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, November 1961, pp. 999-1005.

During the fiscal years 1959 and 1960, national morbidity data indicated a significant increase in the incidence of primary and secondary syphilis in the United States. This rising trend has continued during the first 9 months of 1961. Venereal disease control personnel are confronted with the implications of the reported 12,000 cases in 1960 to a projected 19,000 cases in 1961.

These increases were reported from all geographic areas of the country and occurred in all age groups and in both sexes. The percentage increases in reported cases of infectious syphilis were approximately the same from both clinic and private physician reporting sources.

The data presented indicate that there has been some improvement in morbidity reporting and casefinding efficiency, as well as an actual increase in the inci-

dence of syphilis.

Morbidity reporting practices vary from State to State, and it is difficult to determine the exact extent to which improvement in reporting of infectious syphilis cases by private physicians has contributed to the national increases in the reported incidence of primary and secondary syphilis.

Intensified casefinding activities and improved epidemiologic techniques also contributed their share to the national increases. In order to hasten an ultimate reduction in the incidence of syphilis in the United States, extension of these improved casefinding measures is needed in the control program. Furthermore, an increasing excess of male cases over female cases indicates the need for further epidemiologic studies on the modes of transmission of syphilis.

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Published concurrently with this issue: Public Health Monograph No. 65 Methodological Study of Population of Outpatient Psychiatric Clinics, Maryland, 1958–59. Anita K. Bahn Summary and information on availability appear on page 1041.	



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BROOKE, M. M. (Public Health Service), FEBLES, FRANCISCO, Jr., and BAZE-MORE, MARY: Anthelmintic therapy program in a school using two formulations of dithiazanine. Public Health Reports, Vol. 76, November 1961, pp. 1009–1017.

Pretreatment stool examinations indicated that 68 percent of the Puerto Rican children in a Philadelphia elementary school harbored helminths, principally *Trichuris trichiura*.

A 10-day therapy program was instituted using two formulations of the broad-spectrum anthelmintic, dithiazanine, to treat 128 infected or unexamined Puerto Rican children. A placebo was given to the remaining 262 children.

During the first 5 days of therapy, 36 percent of the children on dithiazanine II, 39 percent on dithiazanine amberlite, and 23 percent on the placebo had side reactions. The relative intolerance to dithiazanine II increased during the second 5 days of therapy. With the exception of excessive vomiting by two children who were removed from therapy with dithiazanine II on the 9th day, the side effects did not constitute a serious problem.

Dithiazanine II (tablets) was significantly more effective than dithiazanine amberlite (capsules) against *T. trichiura* (85 percent versus 44 percent cured; 97 percent versus 75 percent, reduction in egg counts). Although dithiazanine II appeared more effective against hookworm, the differences were not statistically significant.

Dithiazanine II has promise as a suitable drug for mass therapy against nematode infections, since it appears to be more effective and better tolerated than the presently available commercial dithiazanine product. However, in view of the relatively light infections in most children and the spontaneous loss of worms over a period of years, it is questionable whether mass therapy against nematode infections harbored by Puerto Rican children is necessary in schools located in the northern United States, which is outside the recognized endemic areas for these parasites.

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